

September 13, 2010

Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

Re: PETITION OF WAIVER FOR FUNDING YEAR 2010
FORM 471 POSTMARKED OUTSIDE OF WINDOW
CC Docket No. 02-6

Linda M. Thornton
107 N. Lafayette Street
Mobile, AL 36604
251.433.2244
251.438-9069
Email: lthornton@stmarymobile.org

Applicant Form Identifier: S, C107
BEN: St. Mary Elementary School
Deborah D. Ollis, Principal
Form 471 Application Number: 76397
Service Provider: Harbor Communications
Funding year 2010

This is a petition for waiver of FCC Rule for from 471 postmarked outside of window. Please make an exception to the rule as our Form 471 was filed out of window but within 14 days. Our form 470 was posted on January 2010 for 28 days ending February 25, 2010. RFP bids were considered and contract award was March 1, 2010. Our form 471 was then mailed via U.S. Postal service on March 3, 2010 and posted on March 4, 2010.

It would be in the best interest of the public to grant this waiver for funds for a new telephone system and additional data/bandwidth internet for our school. Our current telephone system is outdated by at least 10 years. Additional features on the new telephone system, such as caller ID, will aid in the safety of our students. Currently we use one cable modem to access the internet and it is not adequate for the number of users. As more and more programs for schools become web based and interactive boards are being implemented into the classrooms additional bandwidth is needed to provide timely access to data and Internet resources.

I had been informed by USAC that I would get an Out of window letter and then could apply for a waiver. Our out of window letter from USAC was dated June 7, 2010 but was never received at our school. It states in the letter that we only had 65 days to request a waiver. I had telephoned them on July 8, 2010 case #22-08889 and was told that no out of window letters had been mailed yet. On August 17th I was given the same information and then on September 10, 2010 case number 22-107095 I was informed that letters had been mailed out on June 7, 2010. I received a duplicate letter via email on Friday, September 10, 2010.

Please direct USAC to approve funding for the 2010 funding year.

Sincerely,

Linda M. Thornton, Technology
Deborah D. Ollis, Principal

